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## US VP Pence Wraps Up Israel Visit With Western Wall Stop



US Vice President Mike Pence at the Western Wall. Photo: Reuters / Ronen Zvulun.

**BY REUTERS & ALGEMEINER STAFF**

US Vice President Mike Pence said on Tuesday the timing of a long-awaited American Middle East peace initiative depends on the return of Palestinians to negotiations.

President Donald Trump's advisers have been working on the outlines of a plan for some

time. But Palestinians ruled out Washington as a peace broker after the US leader's Dec. 6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

"The White House has been working with our partners in the region to see if we can develop a framework for peace," Pence told Reuters in an interview in Jerusalem on the last leg of his three-day Middle East trip. "It all just depends now on when the Palestinians are going to come

back to the table."

Trump's Jerusalem move angered the Palestinians, sparked protests in the Middle East and raised concern among Western countries that it could further destabilize the region.

Pence said he and the president believed the decision, under which the US also plans to move its embassy to Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, would improve

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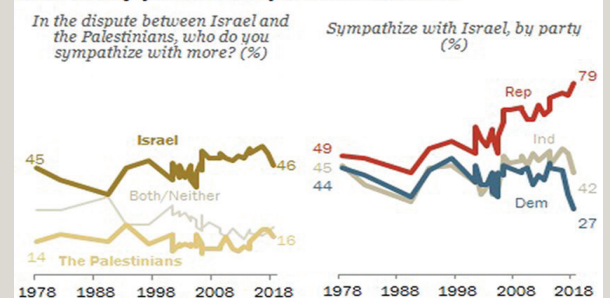
## New Pew Poll Reveals Democratic Ambivalence in American Support of Israel

**BY BEN COHEN**

Support for Israel among US Republicans is at its highest level in four decades, while Democrats are becoming more indifferent toward the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with sympathies for both sides showing a notable decline, a new Pew Research Center poll released on Tuesday revealed.

Overall, US public opinion remains well-disposed toward Israel, with nearly half of the 1,503 Americans questioned saying they sympathized with Israel over the

**Partisan divide in Middle East sympathies now wider than at any point in the past four decades**



Graphic: Pew Research Center

Palestinians — reflecting a consistent pro-Israel trend dating back to 1978, the poll observed.

Forty-six percent of Americans said they sympathized more with the Israelis, while just 16 percent saying they sympathized more with the Palestinians. The remainder was split between respondents who said they sympathized with both sides (5 percent), neither side (14 percent), or did not know (19 percent).

Since 2001, the share of Republicans sympathizing more with Israel than the Palestinians has increased 29

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## Islam and Jerusalem

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### ShabbatCalendar

Parshat BESHALLACH פרשת בשלח Times for New York City, Friday Candle Lighting Shabbat Begins: 4:48pm | Shabbat Ends: 5:51pm

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## Opinion.

## Don't Blame Trump for Abbas Rejecting Peace



JONATHAN S. TOBIN  
JNS.ORG

Those who care about the Jewish state know that the Israeli people ardently desire achieving a lasting and true peace. But the pursuit of that noble aspiration has during the course of the last 25 years been largely based on a delusion. It has always been a matter of wishful thinking, rather than serious analysis, to assume that the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority (PA) created from it after Oslo are as interested in peace as Israel is.

The world got another reminder of this reality when PA President Mahmoud Abbas gave a speech in which he not only rejected any further negotiations with the US and Israel, but also engaged in a wild antisemitic rant denying Jewish history and making it clear he had no desire for peace. Yet when faced with this fact, many on the left prefer to focus their anger at a favorite target rather than admit that Abbas, like his predecessor Yasser Arafat, was an opponent of peace rather than a credible negotiating partner. That's why some in the so-called peace camp prefer to blame Palestinian misbehavior on President Donald Trump rather than own up to the truth about Abbas.

That disconnect between hope and

reality has set up a vicious cycle in which negotiations are always undone by the reality of Palestinian politics. While Palestinian rejectionism has been a constant since the signing of the Oslo Accords in 1993, there have been two moments when their actions were so unambiguous that it exposed the peace process as a sham.

One was in 2000, when, after then-Prime Minister Ehud Barak went to Camp David and offered the Palestinians an independent state in almost all of the West Bank, Gaza and a share of Jerusalem. Arafat said no. Within weeks, he began a terrorist war of attrition known as the Second Intifada that took the lives of more than a thousand Israelis and many more Palestinians.

That war created a broad consensus in Israel in which the vast majority of Israelis came to understand that the Palestinians aren't ready to make peace. But some hoped Arafat's successor would be different. Abbas disappointed those hopes with rejections of more peace offers, refusals to negotiate and inflammatory rhetoric that set off new rounds of violence, such as his assertion that "stinking Jewish feet" should not pollute the holy sites of Jerusalem. Yet still the peace camp clung to him, and President Barack Obama praised him as a champion of peace.

But no rational person could hear Abbas's January 14 diatribe and still believe he has any interest in two states or coexistence. His complaints were not so much about the U.S. recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital as

they were about the entire Zionist project. He denounced Trump but made it clear his real problem was with Arthur James Balfour and the origins of Jewish statehood as well as in denying the historical ties between the Jewish people and their ancient homeland. He vowed to go on supporting terrorism and his violent words confirmed a commitment to incitement.

Yet rather than confront the truth about Abbas, many on the left prefer to blame Trump.

It's true that the president's Jerusalem statement as well as his efforts to pressure the PA to give up terror funding offended the Palestinians. They also resent his willingness to use US aid as leverage to get them to embrace peace.

But nothing he did foreclosed the possibility of two states or even a negotiation in which he would use his leverage to pressure Israel to get the "ultimate deal" he craves. A Palestinian leader who wanted peace would have exploited that opening. Instead, Abbas demonstrated why he didn't take advantage of the eight years when Obama was hammering Israel to make concessions: he isn't interested in deal that will end the conflict on any terms.

Trump didn't make him give that speech.

Nor did Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. But for those who always blame



Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas speaks during a meeting with members of the Central Committee in the West Bank city of Ramallah, Jan. 14, 2018. Photo: Flash90.

Israel and deny Palestinian intentions, admitting that they've been duped is painful. It's time for the "peace camp" to understand Abbas and the Palestinians just aren't that into them. To understand that peace isn't possible in the foreseeable future doesn't mean it can't happen eventually, when the political culture that makes Abbas's stand popular is rejected in favor of one rooted in an admission that their failed century-old war on Zionism is over. But for those who have always blamed Israel and now Trump for the lack of peace, Abbas's speech was a long-overdue reality check. Those who won't accept that have forfeited the respect of fair-minded observers.



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## New York Times Falsely Claims US Has Been 'Neutral' To Israel



IRA STOLL  
BOSTON

An article in *The New York Times* falsely claims that America has a history of being "neutral" in the conflict between Israel and the Palestinian Arabs.

The article, an "Interpreter" column by Max Fisher, appears under the online headline, "Trump's Hard-Line Israel Position Exports U.S. Culture War Abroad."

It makes the false "neutral" claim three times.

First comes the assertion:

*Picking sides has long been taboo in American policy, with presidents asserting that the United States must remain neutral in order to negotiate peace. Mr. Trump, breaking with this practice, answers a major conservative demand.*

Then the claim is repeated a second time, "George W. Bush, then the president, encouraged both inclusion of Muslims and neutrality on Israel."

And then it is repeated a third time: "These policies meet rising conservative demands that the United States abandon its traditional neutrality on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and instead side overtly with Israel."

The idea that the United States has been "neutral" toward Israel, or had been until President Trump came in and abruptly changed

everything, is just flat-out false.

My authoritative Webster's Second Unabridged dictionary defines the word neutral as

1. (a) not taking part in either side of a quarrel; (b) not taking part in a war; giving no active aid to any belligerent.
2. Of, belonging to, or characteristic of a nation not taking part in a war
3. Belonging to neither of two classes; in a middle position between two extremes; not one thing or the other; indifferent.

Switzerland is neutral. The United States is not neutral. The United States gives Israel billions of dollars a year in military aid and has been doing so for years, long predating President Trump. In 1987, President Reagan designated Israel a major non-NATO ally. As President George W. Bush put it in a speech to the America Israel Public Affairs Committee in 2004, "For more than 50 years, the United States and Israel have been steadfast allies."

Last year, Fisher used his *Times* column to liken Israel to the brutal dictatorship of North Korea. That column was also riddled



The headquarters of The New York Times.  
Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

with factual errors that remain uncorrected.

When the *Times* hired Fisher in 2016, we warned that he would be trouble:

*Mr. Fisher's work for Vox on Israel and the Palestinian Arabs has been thoroughly and effectively shredded by both David Bernstein of the Washington Post (here and here) and Noah Pollak of the Washington Free Beacon ("Let us praise Vox Media and its stooges as they stagger and stumble from one hilarious mishap to another, smacking each other in the face with two-by-fours and stepping on rakes.")*

If President Trump had made these sorts of factually erroneous claims and left them uncorrected, the *Times* would be all over him for waging an unprecedented war on truth. Newly-installed *Times* publisher A.G. Sulzberger publicly frets, "Misinformation is rising and trust in the media is declining... Growing polarization is jeopardizing even the foundational assumption of common truths, the stuff that binds a society together."

If Sulzberger really believes what he says about truth and misinformation — "We will continue to put the fairness and accuracy of everything we publish above all else — and in the inevitable moments we fall short, we will continue to own up to our mistakes" — he'll ask Fisher and Fisher's editor for a correction to the "neutrality" nonsense. If he lets it stand uncorrected, it will reflect poorly not only on Fisher, but also on the newspaper's new publisher. Eventually the rake-stepping stops being hilarious and just becomes embarrassing.

## World News.

## Iranian Delegation Visiting Europe Stung by Questions Over Terror Links

BY BEN COHEN

A delegation of Iranian parliamentarians led by a man accused of playing a key role in the crushing of recent nationwide anti-regime demonstrations received a frosty welcome at the European Parliament on Tuesday.

The delegation — led by Alaeddin Bouroujerdi, who chairs the Iranian parliament's Committee on Foreign Policy and National Security — had been the subject of angry protests over the last two days, following an invitation from the European Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee to participate in talks on security and counter-terrorism policy.

Among those who protested the invitation was the Danish MEP Anders Primdahl Vistisen, who described Bouroujerdi on Twitter as a "key figure of violent crackdown on peaceful protests" and criticized the decision to hold talks with the "biggest sponsor of terror in region & against its own people."

The Iranian delegation is currently on a two-day visit to the European Parliament in Brussels. On Wednesday, the Iranians are scheduled to take part in a three-hour seminar focused on relations between the EU and the Tehran regime.

But when Bouroujerdi arrived at the parliament on Tuesday — for what was billed as an "Exchange of Views" with the "Chairman for the Committee for Foreign Policy and National Security of the Islamic Consultative Assembly of Iran" — he found himself on the end of disconcertingly direct questions from the German chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

"I'm from Germany," Christian-Democrat MEP David McAllister told the Iranians, going onto cite last week's raids by German police on suspected Iranian terrorist operatives.

"The media reported that the suspects are accused of spying on possible Israeli and/or Jewish terror attack targets, including Jewish kindergartens," McAllister said. "This would be highly disturbing."

McAllister was warmly praised by Daniel Schwammthal, director of the American Jewish Committee's EU office, the AJC Transatlantic Institute.

"Mr. McAllister and several of his colleagues who also harshly criticized the regime — in particular on its threats to Israel, support for terrorism, and Holocaust denial —

conveyed the crucial message to Tehran that the EU will not tolerate the regime's nefarious and criminal behavior," Schwammthal said.

Jewish advocacy organizations were prominent among the groups and individuals who condemned the invitation to the Iranians. Bouroujerdi himself is a close ally of the Lebanese Shia terrorist group Hezbollah, as well as the regime of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad; at a meeting with the Syrian dictator in Damascus last October, Bouroujerdi declared that Iran and Syria would together "successfully thwart conspiracies masterminded by the US, the Zionists and their regional allies."

In a letter to President of the European Parliament Antonio Tajani, Anti-Defamation League CEO Jonathan Greenblatt highlighted Bouroujerdi's role in promoting the Iranian government's policy of Holocaust denial.

"Just one day before you commemorate the victims of the Holocaust at the parliament, your institution will host a man who participated in a conference in Tehran in 2014 to promote Holocaust deniers," Greenblatt wrote.

Greenblatt pointed out that Bouroujerdi had recently paid his respects at the Beirut grave of Imad Mughniyeh, a senior Hezbollah commander who died in 2008. "At Mughniyeh's grave, Mr. Bouroujerdi praised 'the lives of these fighters and Mujahideen and heroes,'" Greenblatt said.

He continued: "Mughniyeh was implicated in the 1983 bombing of the US embassy in Beirut, the bombings in Buenos Aires of the Israeli embassy in 1992 and the AMIA Jewish community center in 1994, and the 1996 Khobar Towers bombing in Saudi Arabia."

In a separate letter to Tajani, Shimon Samuels — international relations director for the Simon Wiesenthal Center — said that the invitation to the Iranians sent "a horrific message to all Iranian exiles, political prisoners in Iran, Jews and peace-lovers everywhere."



German MEP David McAllister and leading Iranian regime official Alaeddin Boroujerdi  
Photo: Reuters / Eric Vidal. i

## Israel Completes \$1.17 Billion Defense Deal With Italy

BY JNS.ORG

Israel and Italy finalized a \$1.17 billion reciprocal procurement deal Sunday, with the Jewish state delivering a second advanced reconnaissance jet to the Italian Air Force.

The deal, originally inked in 2012, saw the Israeli Air Force purchase 30 Leonardo M-346 Lavi training jets. In return, Italy acquired two G550 Conformal Airborne Early Warning and Control (CAEW) surveillance planes, amounting to the equivalent value of the Israeli purchase.

"The system reflects the deep and fruitful cooperation between the Italian and Israeli defense ministries, including the understanding on each side of the needs and challenges facing the other," said Dr. Danny Gold, head of Israel's Administration for the Development of Weapons and Technological Infrastructure.

The reconnaissance planes, developed by the Elta division of Israel Aerospace Industries, are equipped with the CAEW system, which provides a full aerial and maritime awareness to crews.

## IDF Arrests Family Members of Terrorist Behind Drive-by Shooting



Rabbi Raziel Shevach, right, and his family. Photo: Twitter.

BY JNS.ORG

The IDF on Tuesday morning reportedly arrested Suhaib Nassar Jarrar, the brother of Palestinian terrorist Ahmad Nassar Jarrar, who is suspected of masterminding the drive-by shooting terror attack that killed Rabbi Raziel Shevach of the Havat Gilad settlement earlier this month.

Ahmad is suspected to have evaded arrest last week when the IDF carried out a manhunt in the Palestinian-controlled city of Jenin to apprehend the terror suspects, Palestinian media reported. One suspect was killed

in a shootout with IDF troops during the raid and two IDF soldiers were injured. Wissam Assam Jarrar, another relative of the terrorist, was purportedly arrested by Israeli security forces in Jenin.

Israeli officials have not confirmed the arrests due to a gag order preventing publication of information regarding the case. The IDF did state, however, that eight Palestinian terror suspects had been arrested in raids throughout Judea and Samaria this week.

Shevach, 35, was a medical first-responder and teacher. He was survived by his wife and six children.

*Continued from Page A1*  
**Visit**

Pence discussed the Jerusalem issue during talks with Egypt's President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi on Saturday and Jordan's King Abdullah on Sunday. He said the two leaders had agreed to convey to the Palestinians that the US was eager to resume peace talks.

"We want them (the Palestinians) to know the door is open," Pence said. "We understand they're unhappy with that decision, but the president wanted me to convey our willingness and desire to be a part of the peace process going forward."

*Continued from Page A1*  
**Ambivalence**

percentage points, from 50 percent to 79 percent, the poll showed. "The share of Republicans who sympathize with Israel has never been higher, dating back four decades," the poll observed.

But the falling support for Israel among Democrats will likely alarm American Jewish organizations, who want to avoid US President Donald Trump's vocal support for Israel becoming an appealing target for opponents of his administration. Nearly half of the Democrats questioned — 46 percent — said they believed that Trump was biased toward Israel, while only 21 percent said the president had struck "the right balance" between Israel and the Palestinians.

Trump's close relationship with Benjamin Netanyahu appears to have impacted American perceptions of the Israeli prime minister, with 60 percent of Republicans reporting a positive impression of Netanyahu, and 49 percent of those defined as "liberal" Democrats admitting to an unfavorable view. Among liberal Democrats overall, 35 percent said they supported the Palestinians, with 19 percent choosing Israel.

Critically, indifference to the conflict among Democrats is increasing, with 27

Pence said the State Department would spell out details in the coming weeks about a plan to move the US embassy to Jerusalem by the end of 2019.

Israeli media have speculated that a 2019 embassy move could help Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu win re-election in a vote scheduled for November of that year.

Asked if he hoped for Netanyahu's re-election, Pence said: "I'm a strong supporter of Benjamin Netanyahu, but I don't get a vote here."

Pence wrapped up his visit to Israel on Tuesday with stops at Yad Vashem and the Western Wall.

percent of Democrats saying they sympathized more with Israel, while 25 percent said they sympathize more with the Palestinians — a decline of six points for both sides compared to last year. Another 23 percent said they sympathized with neither or both sides and 25 percent said they did not know.

The greatest negative impact of the changes in opinion among Democrats has been on support for Israel, the poll noted. "As recently as two years ago, in April 2016, Democrats were more likely to sympathize more with Israel (43 percent) than with the Palestinians (29 percent), with 16 percent saying they sympathized with both or neither," the poll said.

Another area of concern will be the poll's findings on how young Americans view the conflict — though again, Israel receives the greatest share of support.

"Young people are more divided than older adults in where their sympathies lie in the Israeli-Palestinian dispute," the poll observed. "About a third of those under 30 (32 percent) say they sympathize more with Israel, compared with 23 percent who sympathize more with the Palestinians."

"Those in older age groups sympathize more with Israel by wide margins," the poll said.

## World News.



St. Pancras Coroners Court in North London. Photo: Reuters / Andrew Winning.

## UK Jewish Leaders Call for Ousting of Senior London Coroner in Bitter Row Over Burial Delays

BY BEN COHEN

The UK's representative Jewish body, the Board of Deputies of British Jews, issued an angry call on Monday for the removal of a senior London coroner who has been locked in dispute with the Jewish and Muslim communities over the disruption of burial ceremonies conducted according to religious law.

Under both Jewish and Islamic law, the bodies of the deceased require burial within one day of death.

In a statement issued on Monday carrying the headline "Hassell must go!", the Board demanded that Mary Hassell, the senior coroner for Inner North London, be removed from her post.

The demand for Hassell's removal came after what the Board described as a "deeply disappointing meeting" with the coroner on Friday, where she showed little interest in addressing the Jewish community's concerns in her work.

The row with Hassell broke out at the end of December, when the London Jewish Chronicle reported on several cases of Jewish burials delayed from taking place by Hassell's directives, causing significant distress to the families involved. One Jewish woman was reported to have made 210 increasingly frantic phone calls to Hassell's office before her father was released for burial on December 24.

The paper also reported on an exchange of letters between Hassell and representatives of the Jewish community in the East London borough of Hackney — home to a large haredi Jewish population — in which the coroner revealed that "no death will be prioritized in any way over any other because of the religion

of the deceased or family, either by coroner's officers or coroners."

In the same letter, Hassell confirmed that she would no longer allow the bodies of Jewish deceased to be located at Jewish funeral homes for the purpose of shemirah — the guarding of the body by other Jews — until burial ceremonies commence.

Interviewed by BBC News on Friday after Hassell rejected efforts by Jewish leaders to reach an understanding, the Board's vice president, Marie Van Der Zyl, said the coroner's directives were "disrupting family life to such an extent that people don't want to die within Inner London North."

"To say they don't want to die there, they're too frightened to die, is something that's so traumatizing and so against Jewish values, and indeed it affects Muslims as well," Van Der Zyl said. "It's at the heart of both of our faiths for there to be speedy burial."

Abdul Hai — a Muslim councillor in the North London borough of Camden — also called for Hassell to quit, the BBC reported.

In its statement on Monday, the Board noted that "early release of bodies for those families who want it — including Jewish families — is a fulfillment of the basic human rights of family life and religious practice."

The statement continued: "Not only is Ms Hassell failing to respect those rights, but she shows no inclination to do so. She has lost the confidence of the Jewish community, and appears to have no interest in winning it back."

The Board said it would be writing to the UK Lord Chancellor and Justice Secretary, David Gauke, and the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Burnett of Maldon, to request Hassell's removal from her post.

## New York Times Blames Iran Protests on 'Climate Change'

BY IRA STOLL

The New York Times has finally discovered the cause of the protests in Iran: global climate change.

Seriously. A Times news article from the United Nations under the byline of Somini Sengupta reports, "Iran is the latest example of a country where a water crisis, long in the making, has fed popular discontent." It warned, "Climate change is projected to make Iran hotter and drier."

Lower down, the article grudgingly

concedes, "Water alone doesn't explain the outbreak of protests that began in early January and spread swiftly across the country." If it doesn't, then why bother with a long article emphasizing its supposed importance as a factor?

The Times article appears under the print headline, "Warming, Water Crisis, Then Unrest: Iran Fits a Pattern."

Here's the thing that the Times doesn't seem to get. Climate is one of those things that doesn't particularly respect political boundaries. Israel and Arizona also have hot and dry

## Debunking the Debunking of Myths About Iran

BY JONI TOBIN

In a piece titled "Five Myths About Iran," that was recently published in The Washington Post, Trita Parsi — the president of the National Iranian American Council — set out to debunk common American myths about Iran. Parsi's effort to sift out nuggets of truth from fiction might have been considered praiseworthy — if only the debunking itself had not devolved into mythology and falsehoods.

The first myth that Parsi attempts to debunk is that "the nuclear deal only delays an inevitable Iran bomb," because of the expiration of the deal's restriction on centrifuges and the stockpiling of energy-grade uranium after approximately 15 years.

While this is hardly controversial — former President Barack Obama himself has admitted it — Parsi argues that the deal is solid because "intrusive inspections" and "transparency and verification mechanisms" are a permanent component of the deal. However, this begs the question: what is there to "inspect" if the deal eventually allows for the resumption of unrestricted uranium stockpiling, or an unlimited number of nuclear centrifuges? Parsi's logic is akin to one claiming that legalizing bank robbery will have no negative consequences — because banks will still have security guards.

The second myth Parsi addresses is the idea that "killing the [Iran nuclear] deal would help support Iranian protestors." This is untrue, Parsi claims, because ordinary Iranians benefit from the sanction relief that the deal provides. While there is some truth to this, Parsi makes no mention of the possibility of targeted sanctions, which would provide economic relief to the largely moderate Iranian public, while still putting pressure on the theocratic elites that wreak havoc in the region.

Parsi's argument in this portion of the op-ed, however, is generally sound. The same goes for his debunking of the third myth — that the widespread popular protests in 2009 known as the "Green Movement" were not entirely a failure. His is fundamentally accurate, but it is Parsi's clear thinking on these points that makes his next contention so utterly baffling. The fourth myth is that "Iran's enmity with Israel is ideological and immutable."

Immutable?

Perhaps not. Few conflicts in history, ideological or otherwise, are genuinely immutable. The United States fought bloody wars against both of its neighbors, and less than a century ago dropped two atomic bombs

climates. Yet somehow the Israeli Jews of Eilat and Beersheba, or the retired Jewish condominium residents in Scottsdale, aren't out in the streets trying to overthrow their governments. Maybe what's causing the protests, then, isn't climate change but the fact that Iranians are fed up with a corrupt and tyrannical government that's spending billions of dollars on exporting terrorism aimed at Jews abroad while its own people suffer.

In fact, as Seth Sigel showed in his book *Let There Be Water: Israel's Solution For a Water-Starved World*, a combination of technology, conservation, and prudent planning and investment make water challenges surmountable for arid Middle Eastern nations such as Israel.

It doesn't seem to have occurred to the Times that some of its readers might consider anti-regime protests in Iran to be a positive development. If the protests were indeed linked to climate change in a reality separate from the world of the Times imagination, even some liberal Times readers might be tempted to buy

on Japan, which is now a close US ally. In the 1930s and 1940s, Germany and the USSR lined up on opposite sides in the Spanish Civil War, then became allies, and finally became sworn enemies and fought a war to the death — all over the course of a few years. The Cold War ended (to some degree). Some historical conflicts lasted over 600 years before fizzling out unspectacularly. Conflicts end.

But ideological?

Parsi argues that "the conflict is driven by geopolitical factors." What are those geopolitical factors? If you asked Mohammed Ali Jafari, the leader of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps, he might say, as he did in 2015, that Iran "will not rest easy until [Israel] is totally deleted from the region's geopolitics." Geopolitics indeed — but probably not what Parsi had in mind.

Iranian leaders have not exactly held their tongue about their desire to exterminate Israel. In fact, historically, it is hard to locate many examples of one country directing more venomous rhetoric at another nation.

The supreme leader of Iran, Ali Khamenei, openly has spoken about how it is the "mission of Iran to erase Israel from the map" because the "barbaric, wolflike, and infanticidal regime of Israel has no cure but to be annihilated." If the term ideological has any application ever, it is here — deep in the bowels of a hatred so deep-rooted that it supersedes any rational grievance.

Parsi admits that "Iranian leaders turned against Israel rhetorically." But dismissing these threats as pure rhetoric does little to explain the 100,000 missiles that Iran currently points at Israel, or the material support that Iran provides to active terrorist organizations active in and around Israel.

Parsi's argument hinges on the fact that Iran and Israel cooperated briefly in the 1980s on some geopolitical projects. But when in history has deep ideological enmity precluded a brief alliance of convenience?

The final myth Parsi sets out to debunk is that "Iranians hate Americans." This is more of a straw-man argument, if anything; few well-read people believe that all, or even most, Iranians despise Americans. However, there is unquestionably a sizable minority of religious puritans among Iran's population who not only hate America, but refer to it as the Great Satan, and wish it nothing short of total destruction.

However one may feel about Iran or the Iran nuclear deal, one is entitled to their own opinion. But, as Daniel Patrick Moynihan once said, they are not entitled to their own facts. Trita Parsi has helped himself to both.

gas guzzling vehicles, invest in coal-fired factories, or otherwise do what they can to help fuel the movement, so to speak. Rather, the framework of the Times seems to be, "Alas, here's yet another harmful consequence of climate change. Not only are our cities going to be underwater, but there could be 'trouble' in Iran."

The Times online headline calls it an "alarming" pattern. The protests may be "alarming" from the perspective of the tyrannical terror-sponsoring blood-soaked Iranian regime. The regime's opponents, both inside and outside the country, however, view the protests as encouraging. The Times, at least in this article, just can't seem to conceive of that possibility.



Anti-regime protesters gather at the University of Tehran. Photo: Reuters.

## U.S. News.

## Tillerson to Present US Strategy on Syria to European, Arab Allies

BY REUTERS & ALGEMEINER STAFF

Secretary of State Rex Tillerson will give an outline of the United States' strategy to stabilize Syria and push ahead with a political solution when he holds talks with close allies in Paris on Tuesday, Western and Arab diplomats said.

Tillerson will first attend a meeting hosted by France on an initiative to target those responsible for chemical attacks, largely in Syria. He then holds informal consultations on the Syrian strategy with a smaller group of foreign ministers from key allies — Britain, France, Germany, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

"We'll know more later, but Tillerson will present a paper on Syria," said a Middle Eastern diplomat.

This month Tillerson signaled an open-ended US military presence in Syria as part of a broader strategy to prevent Islamic State's resurgence and pave the way for the eventual departure of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. In the speech he called for "patience" on Assad's departure — the clearest indication yet of US acceptance that Russia and Iran have bolstered Assad and that he is unlikely to leave power immediately. Tillerson said the US strategy would focus on diplomatic efforts.

It was not clear how detailed Tillerson's presentation would be or whether it would be form a basis to approach Russia, a key backer of Assad, which will host a Syrian peace congress in Sochi on Jan 29-30.

The foreign minister of Turkey, which has launched a major military offensive targeting Kurdish YPG forces in northwest Syria, will attend the chemical weapons meeting but was not due to join the consultations on Washington's Syrian strategy.

Ties between NATO allies Turkey and the United States have become badly strained over a number of issues, including US support for the YPG, which Ankara sees as a security threat.

At the meeting on chemical weapons 29 countries are expected to agree to work more closely on targeting those behind chemical weapons attacks and imposing necessary sanctions on them.

As a first step, France on Tuesday imposed unilateral sanctions on 25 people and entities, including from China, Lebanon and France, and among them importers and distributors of metals, electronics and lighting systems. It said the companies were helping to supply Syria's chemical weapons program.

A joint inquiry of the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) determined that the Syrian government used the nerve agent sarin in an April 4, 2017, attack and also used several times chlorine as a weapon.

Syria agreed to destroy its chemical weapons in 2013 under a deal brokered by Russia and the United States. The Syrian government has denied using chemical weapons.

## US Jewish Groups Praise VP Pence for Support of Israel

BY ALGEMEINER STAFF

US Vice President Mike Pence's speech at the Israeli Knesset on Monday was warmly praised by a number of major American-Jewish groups.

"President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence have proven time and again since entering office that the US administration today is a true friend of the State of Israel, dedicated to the well-being and security of the Jewish people, to the indisputable nature of Jerusalem as Israel's historic capital, and to supporting a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict if agreed upon by both sides," World Jewish Congress President Ronald S. Lauder said in a statement.

Zionist Organization of America President Morton A. Klein hailed Pence's "extraordinary and powerful address."

"Vice President Pence's speech was one of the most pro-Israel speeches ever delivered by a foreign official," Klein stated. "It was also one of the most clear-thinking anti-terror speeches ever delivered."

B'nai B'rith International tweeted, "We commend @VP Pence at the Knesset today for his strong statement of support for Israel and for his affirmation of a close US-Israel relationship."

In his Knesset speech, Pence announced that the US Embassy in Israel would be moved from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem by the end of 2019.

He also vowed that the US would "never allow Iran to acquire a nuclear weapon."

## US to Send Diplomatic Team to Europe to Discuss Iran Nuclear Deal

BY REUTERS & ALGEMEINER STAFF


The United States plans to send a diplomatic team to Europe to discuss the Iran nuclear deal and countering Iranian activities in the Middle East, US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said on Monday according to an American pool reporter.

"We have a team traveling — actually,

they're coming to Europe," Tillerson said according to the US reporter traveling with him.

The team would explore "how we can address these flaws in the nuclear agreement ... but also how can we cooperate more on countering Iran's activities that are not related to their nuclear program," Tillerson said. "Our concerns about their arms exports to Yemen and elsewhere."

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## Opinion.

## Why Is Alan Dershowitz Defending Qatar?

SHMULEY BOTEACH  
ENGELWOOD

I was mystified that a colleague I greatly admire, Professor Alan Dershowitz, became the latest Jewish junketeer to succumb to the lure of a free visit to Qatar and parrot the emirate's propaganda. It is bizarre that someone so renowned for fighting antisemitism and a hero to so many — myself included — would publish such a poorly-argued piece in *The Hill* defending the principal funder of Hamas.

Professor Dershowitz is known for sometimes working for unsavory characters based on the attorney's mantra that the US Constitution guarantees everyone a fair trial and the right to a defense. I do not disagree that this is sometimes necessary. The emir of Qatar, however, is not an American citizen, and is not entitled to these protections. He is, in fact, a dictator who the State Department Human Rights Report says "prohibited organized political parties and restricted civil liberties, including freedoms of speech, press, and assembly and access to a fair trial for persons held under the Protection of Society Law and the Combating Terrorism Law." The report also says that women's participation in society is limited by "cultural discrimination," and that "trafficking in persons" is an ongoing problem.

These are all the human rights abuses that Dershowitz normally fights against. So why would he defend such an unsavory regime?

By far the most outrageous comment Alan made, however, was that "Qatar is quickly becoming the Israel of the Gulf States, surrounded by enemies, subject to boycotts and unrealistic demands, and struggling for its survival."

This is an absolutely shocking statement that must be rebutted.

He is comparing Israel — a democracy — with an autocratic regime that has exercised "full executive power" since 1868 and whose constitution "provides for hereditary rule by men in the emir's branch of the Al Thani family."

He says that Qatar, which is surrounded not by genocidal enemies, but by Arab/Islamic countries engaged in a temporary political dispute, is similar to Israel, which

has fought multiple wars of survival with its neighbors and remains threatened by Islamic radicals, terrorists and countries such as Iran, which regularly threaten its annihilation.

He compares the boycott of Qatar, which is only maintained by its neighbor Gulf States based on their unhappiness with the emirate's policies and support of terrorism, with the international antisemitic campaign to boycott Israel based on its sheer Jewish existence.

Dershowitz claims Qatar, ranked the richest per capita country on the planet by Forbes, with no one threatening its existence, is struggling for survival like Israel, a country that has been threatened with genocide by terrorists and neighboring states for nearly 70 years.

I am in shock.

In an effort to appear tough on the Qataris, he says that he asked them about all the allegations made against them — and they have declared themselves innocent of all charges. I doubt that Dershowitz is this naïve when defending clients who also declare their innocence. He makes Qatar sound like some pathetic victim of crimes committed by bullies. He complains that the Saudis are leading the campaign to boycott "their tiny neighboring state," and that asserts this is immoral and illegal. One may always question the morality of blockades, but they are not illegal in wartime. They are a recognized tactic in economic and shooting wars. Israel and Egypt are currently blockading Gaza, which is justified because of the threat posed by terrorist leaders committed to Israel's destruction.

Those same Hamas terrorists have been receiving financial support from Qatar; this has allowed them to continue to manufacture rockets to fire at Israelis, and tunnels to infiltrate Israel and kidnap or murder Jews. Dershowitz raised the issue with his hosts, who reportedly told him that they were only providing aid to build homes, schools and hospitals. Are you kidding me? Wasn't it Dershowitz himself who published the 2014 book, *Terror Tunnels: The Case for Israel's Just War Against Hamas*.

Alan rightly noted that "money is fungible and that funds given for humanitarian purposes can then free Hamas to use other funds to support terrorism." The Qatari response was that their activities are "coordinated" with Israel. He admitted that he could not confirm this, but found their case more

credible than that of the Saudis. But it is not only the Saudis who have accused Qatar of supporting Hamas.

Instead, their support for Hamas is well documented. In 2007, Qatar was one of the only countries to support the coup that allowed Hamas to seize control of the Gaza Strip from the Palestinian Authority. In 2012, Qatar pledged \$400 million to support "reconstruction" in Gaza, and has been the largest single donor to Gaza for the past five years. Qatar also has provided a haven to Hamas terrorists, including members of the group's leadership.

Republican Congressmen Brian Fitzpatrick of Pennsylvania and Dan Donovan of New York wrote an op-ed a few weeks ago, noting that "Qatar is the master of playing all sides." They said that the emirate's strategy is to "pursue good relations with the United States, make false promises about combating terror, lavishly fund western universities and business projects — all while quietly financing and promoting terror, allying with Iran, and leveraging an American air base as an insurance policy against punishment for promoting terror."

Qatar's duplicity is one reason that the country has been targeted by Congress. The Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act, introduced late last year, would impose sanctions on countries that support Hamas and extremist terror operations. The proposed legislation had an almost immediate impact. According to Ed Royce (R-CA), Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee: "When the bill was introduced, Qatar was hosting senior Hamas terrorist Saleh Al-Aroui after being expelled in 2016 from Turkey. Two weeks after this legislation was introduced, he, along with other Hamas terrorists, was expelled from Qatar."

The Qataris told Dershowitz that the United States told them to allow the Hamas leaders to live in Doha. This seems preposterous, especially given that President Trump complained about Qatar funding terror "on [a] very high level," and said during his trip to the region that funding for radical ideologies had to stop. Dershowitz's lawyerly response to his hosts' assertion, like several of the others, was that these "factual issues should be subject to objective verification."

Dershowitz also seemed to swallow the ridiculous argument that Qatar has improved



Doha, Qatar. Photo: StellarD via Wikimedia Commons.

ties with Iran out of necessity — because of the boycott imposed by its Gulf neighbors. One reason for the boycott was Qatar siding with the radical Shiite regime in Tehran over their Sunni neighbors, who are being threatened by Iran. They were not forced into the arms of the Iranians; they voluntarily embraced them.

Dershowitz's defense of *Al Jazeera* is particularly galling. I understand that he is a believer of freedom of speech. But *Al Jazeera's* all-consuming defamation of Israel is hate speech. He claimed that the English channel is "generally fair." It is certainly not fair to Israel — which it has accused of "ethnic cleansing" and "mass atrocities" against Palestinian Arabs. Israel has threatened to ban the network because of its incitement. Even the United Arab Emirates said that *Al Jazeera* had "promoted antisemitic violence by broadcasting sermons by the spiritual leader of the Muslim Brotherhood, Yusuf al-Qaradawi."

It is astonishing that Alan Dershowitz — a man I deeply respect for his principles and defense of Israel — has allowed himself to become a mouthpiece for Qatar. The fact that someone of Dershowitz's stature would come back from his visit, which he admits was entirely funded by the government of Qatar, parroting its views only emboldens the Qataris to persist in the tactic of offering Jews free propaganda trips and hiring more Jewish operatives, like Nick Muzin, to whitewash their support of terror.

If the Qataris are so worried about their reputation and their survival, however, they would be better advised to stop supporting terrorism and sever ties with Iran, rather than continue to seek out influential Jews whom they think can help them end their isolation. Let's pray that more Jewish leaders aren't taken in by this brazen and dangerous propaganda effort.

*Rabbi Shmuley Boteach, "America's Rabbi," whom The Washington Post calls "the most famous Rabbi in America" is the international best-selling author of 31 books including his most recent, "The Israel Warrior's Handbook." Follow him on Twitter @RabbiShmuley.*

## Islam's Jewish Dilemma Revisited

BEN COHEN/JNS.ORG  
NEW YORK

In his important book *Anti-Judaism: The Western Tradition*, the scholar David Nirenberg makes the persuasive case that Islam has faced similar theological challenges to Christianity in assessing its relationship to Judaism. On the one hand, Nirenberg argues, Islam regards the Jews as "enemies" of Muhammad's prophecy; on the other, Islam realizes only too well that, without the existence of the Jews and their practices to begin with, there would

have been no subsequent prophetic tradition and faith to follow.

"How to appropriate the prophetic claims of Jewish communities without 'Judaizing Islam?'" writes Nirenberg, summarizing the core of the Muslim dilemma. "How to contain or exclude them without severing Islam from its Abrahamic foundations?"

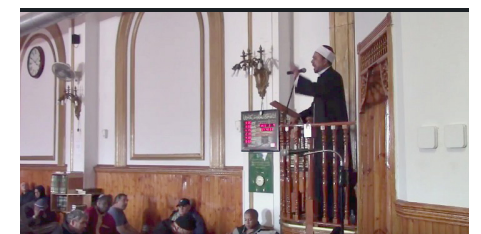
I've mused a great deal on this passage in recent weeks, as I've reported on three separate occasions on antisemitic sermons of varying ferocity at three different mosques in the US, all posted on social media platforms and then unearthed by the Middle East Media Research Institute. What these sermons have in common is that they were delivered on Friday, December 8, 2017 — the same week that President Donald Trump recognized

Jerusalem as Israel's capital. All of them drew on similar images, themes and quotations. All of them utilized language and sentiments that would be regarded by any rational calculation as unambiguously threatening towards Jews.

The worst example was the sermon delivered at the Islamic Center of Jersey City by Sheikh Aymen Elkasaby, who told those gathered for prayers that the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem was "under the feet of the apes and pigs" — a commonly expressed derogatory term for Jews, that is based upon a sura (chapter) in the Quran which claims that in his anger towards the Jews, God "made some as apes and swine."

"So long as the Al-Aqsa Mosque remains a humiliated prisoner under the oppression of the Jews, this nation will never prevail. ... Allah, wreak vengeance upon the plundering oppressors!" the sheikh continued. "Count them one by one, and kill them down to the very last one. Do not leave a single one on the face of the Earth."

On the same day, in Houston, Sheikh Raed Saleh Al-Rousan asserted that Judgment Day "will not start until Muslims fight the

Imam Aymen Elkasaby preaching  
Photo: YouTube screenshot.

Jews ... in Palestine." Al-Rousan then quoted a popular hadith (saying) of the Prophet Muhammad concerning the Jews.

"The Muslims will kill the Jews," he recited, "and the Jews will hide behind the stones and the trees, and the stones and the trees will say: Oh Muslim, oh servant of Allah, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him, except for the Gharqad tree, which is one of their trees."

A version of that hadith also turned up in the sermon about alleged American and Israeli iniquities given by Imam Abdullah Khadra of Raleigh, North Carolina. "At the End of Time," as Khadra rendered it, "we will fight those Jews until the rocks and the trees

*Continued on Page A10*

# Pomegranate Perfection ...Any Way You Slice It



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## Impressions.

# Islam and Jerusalem

BY JEREMY ROSEN

Why is the Muslim world up in arms about Jerusalem being declared the capital of Israel? After all, Jerusalem is made up of different areas — just as Brooklyn, the Bronx, Queens, Manhattan and Staten Island are all part of New York City. The part of Jerusalem that contains the Knesset and is the administrative heart of Israel is located on land that has been part of the state since 1948, and is quite separate from the Old City and the lands reclaimed from Jordan in 1967.

There is no logical reason why Palestine, if it is ever established, should not declare its capital at Abu Dis, a suburb to the east — and part of Jerusalem, too. The fuss is clearly not about Jerusalem itself, but something else.

The religious reason given for Muslim opposition to Jerusalem as Israel's capital is that the Old City is a holy city for Islam, and that the Al-Aqsa Mosque is the place that Mohammad visited in a dream. Jerusalem is not mentioned in the Koran — and a mosque was not built on the Temple site until almost 100 years after Mohammad's time.

The Al-Aqsa Mosque, incidentally, is not — and was not — the golden-domed mosque, as the world seems to think. That one was known as Omar's, and was built in 691. Al-Aqsa, the less impressive one, was built in 705. But Muslim interest in Jerusalem as a holy city only began in response to the Crusaders, who called Jerusalem their holy city (because they believed Jesus had been buried in the Holy Sepulcher there). In reality the holy cities of Islam under Mohammad were Mecca and Medina.

Just as Jews have a written Torah and an oral Torah, Islam has the Koran and the Hadith. It is the Hadith, compiled over several hundred years after the prophet, that mentions a holy city in addition to Mecca and Medina — and claims that Jerusalem was the one that contained a holy mosque. Many scholars dispute this, because there was no mosque in Jerusalem until long after Mohammad died. They argue that the third mosque was in Yemen, at a place called al-Maqdis. Because al-Maqdis, sounds like Mikdash, the Hebrew phrase for the "holy place," tradition associated the name with the Jerusalem temple. But this was essentially a move to compete with the Christians, rather than the Jews. There is no tradition in the Koran or the Hadith of praying for Jerusalem.

There is another issue.

All the areas conquered by the Muslims under Mohammad, Omar and the Umayyad dynasty are considered Islamic territory. In the last millennia, anyone living there had to accept Islam as the supreme authority, and resign themselves to being dhimmis. Christians and Jews, who could live there, were required to pay a tax to Islam — the Jizya. The stated aim of Islam at the time was to reconquer all such territory, including Spain. Returning to Al-Andalus remains a common theme of jihadis. They also want to reclaim the land in Europe that they once held when — at the height of Islamic expansion — they reached Budapest and Vienna.

Because of all this, Jews living in Muslim territory, having self-determination and freedom from Islamic rule is something they fundamentally oppose.

The Koran states (according to one translation):  
*Pharaoh sought to scare them [the Israelites]*

*out of the land [of Israel]: but We [Allah] drowned him [Pharaoh] together with all who were with him. Then We [Allah] said to the Israelites: "Dwell in this land [the Land of Israel]. When the promise of the hereafter [End of Days] comes to be fulfilled, We [Allah] shall assemble you [the Israelites] all together [in the Land of Israel]."*

*We [Allah] have revealed the Qur'an with the truth. ... We have sent you [Muhammed] forth only to proclaim good news and to give warning."*

Yet the Islamic world of today denies this. The

these extremes, the simple populace — ignorant, whipped up by fanatics, and paid to demonstrate — have become accustomed to antisemitic ideas, and the constant preaching of hatred by many (not all) imams and mullahs around the Muslim world. Sympathy for the Palestinians is understandable. We Jews would sympathize and support any Jewish community that we felt was being mistreated. Why shouldn't Muslims? One cannot expect neutrality.

I do not want to negate Israeli mistakes, mistreatments or the evils of occupation. But each



*The Israeli flag at Jerusalem's Western Wall. Photo: Hynek Moravec via Wikimedia Commons.*

use of violence, which is permitted by the Hadith to recover lost territory, ignores the Koran itself when applied to Israel.

Originally, Muslims had always allowed the Jews to live in the Old City. Only the Crusaders massacred the Jews and drove them out. So why did Islam suddenly change?

When Jordan conquered the Old City in 1948, it destroyed the synagogues and the Jewish Quarter, and forbade Jews from entering. Why? Because all subjected peoples had to accept their inferiority. And the idea of an inferior people standing up to Muslim power was an affront and a repudiation of Islamic power and honor. But the greatest humiliation of all is the reminder that barely 14 million Jews are standing up to nearly two billion Muslims.

The use of violence as a political tool began with the Arab riots of 1922. The argument that the Western powers were imperialists might have been true when it came to breaking up the Ottoman Empire. But Jews had been living in the Middle East from before Islam began. In 1948, most Jews in the world lived in Muslim lands and spoke Arabic. The reaction to Israeli independence was to expel these Jews from almost every Muslim land that they lived in. Hatred of Israel, then, had nothing to do with settlements or Israel's capital. It was against their very existence as an independent entity. The only Arab leader prepared to accommodate Israel at the time was King Abdullah of Jordan, who was assassinated in 1951. So was President Sadat for making peace.

Although many moderate Muslims reject

side has its polemics. And if the overwhelming worldview, as expressed in the United Nations, is against Israel and against its history, why shouldn't I argue for my people first? To claim that Israel is committing genocide is a joke, because both within Israel and in the West Bank, the Palestinian Arab population has been growing, not shrinking. If Israel has such a powerful and efficient army, why is it so incompetent, failing so abysmally to achieve its supposed aim of killing off Palestinians? The argument of imperialism and colonialism is a joke. The biggest imperialists and colonialists over the past millennium have been Arabs and Muslims themselves.

Recognizing Israel's right to name its own capital is the first step in stopping the policy of appeasement. The US has not said that the Palestinians cannot also have their capital in East Jerusalem. And when it comes to Jerusalem, Israel has guaranteed access to everyone since 1967. The same was not true under Muslim rule.

This week, Abbas admitted for the first time in public that he believes the Jews have no claim whatsoever to Jerusalem or Israel. It is time to stop appeasement and to negotiate honestly — face to face — without an army of supporters behind the scenes urging the Palestinians to hold out for more. Their suffering pains me, but it's time to set the record straight on the true source of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: Palestinian rejectionism.



# Legal Notice.

## LEGAL NOTICE



Notice of formation of a limited liability company(LLC) Name: SEPTEMBER SWELL,LLC . Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 09/27/2017. Office location: Kings county. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail copy of the process to: United States corporation agents,inc. 7014 13th Ave., suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: all lawful activity  
AJ; 12/29; 1/5/12/19/26; 2/2

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS Pennymac Corp, Plaintiff AGAINST Donald Bradley a/k/a Donald E. Bradley; Doreen Bradley; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated September 25, 2017 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on February 8, 2018 at 2:30PM, premises known as 392 Fenimore Street, Brooklyn, NY 11225. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block 4814 Lot 20. Approximate amount of judgment \$466,536.43 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 509000/2014. Steven Naiman, Esq, Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: December 19, 2017 50748  
AJ; 1/5/12/19/26;

PUMPEDISA,LLC.Articles of Org filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 08/03/2017. Office in KINGS COUNTY.SSNY design agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 4809 AVENUE N, #317, BROOKLYN, NY 11234. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.  
AJ; 1/5/12/19/26; 2/2/9

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: HERA PROPERTY CONSULTING,LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/02/2017. Office location: Kings county. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail copy of the process to: United States corporation agents,inc. 7014 13th Avenue, suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: all lawful activity  
AJ; 1/12/19/26; 2/2/9/16

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST BY PURCHASE FROM THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION AS RECEIVER OF WASHINGTON MUTUAL BANK F/K/A WASHINGTON MUTUAL BANK, FA, Plaintiff against JESSIE LOZADA; BENJAMIN LOZADA; MRS. LOZADA, a woman who refused to identify her first name, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment

## LEGAL NOTICE

of Foreclosure and Sale entered on March 27, 2017. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Courthouse, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY, on the 15th day of February, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. premises described as follows: All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the building and improvements thereon erected, situate lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York. Said premises known as 167 Euclid Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. 11208. (Block: 4129, Lot: 23). Approximate amount of lien \$ 328,267.43 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 506966/2014. Zvi Storch, Esq., Referee. Fein, Such & Crane, LLP Attorneys for Plaintiff 28 East Main Street, Suite 1800 Rochester, NY. 14614 (585) 232-7400  
AJ; 1/12/19/26; 2/2/

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC) Name: Melinda Michael LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 01/04/2018. Office location: Richmond County. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail copy of the process to: Shanna Walker 65 Grand View Avenue Staten Island NY 10303. Purpose: all lawful activity  
AJ; 1/12/19/26; 2/2/9/16

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC). Name: Polished & Professional Staffing, LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York (SSNY) on 12/28/2017. Office location: Bronx County. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Ivette Torres 3139 Waterbury Ave. Bronx , NY 10465 . Purpose: all lawful activity  
AJ; 1/12/19/26; 2/2/9/16

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF THE HOLDERS OF CSAB MORTGAGE-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-1, Plaintiff against WILLIAM A. STALLONE, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on November 29, 2017. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Courthouse, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY. on the 15th day of February, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. premises described as follows: All that certain piece or parcel of land, together with any improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn , City and State of New York, designated on the Tax Map of the City of New York, for the Borough of Brooklyn, as said Tax Map was on May 27, 1981, for Block 7949, Lot 235, being more particularly bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the northerly side of Preston Court distant 527.85 feet Westerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the Northerly side of Preston Court with the Westerly side of East 56th Street; RUNNING thence northerly at right angles to Preston Court and part of the distance through a party wall 165.73 to land now or formerly of the right of way of the Long Island Railroad Company; THENCE westerly along said land of the Long Island Rail Road Company 20.01 feet to a point; THENCE southerly at right

## LEGAL NOTICE

angles to Preston Court 165.34 feet to the Northerly side of Preston Court; THENCE Easterly along the Northerly side of Preston Court 20 feet to the point or place of BEGINNING. Said premises known as 21 Preston Court, Brooklyn, NY. 11234. (Block: 7949, Lot: 235). Approximate amount of lien \$ 303,103.81 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 500904-14. Steven Naiman, Esq., Referee. Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 10 Bank Street Suite - 700 White Plains, NY. 10606 (914) 949-2574  
AJ; 1/12/19/26; 2/2/

Azna Realty LLC Arts. Of Org. Filed w/ SSNY 12/27/17. Off.in Kings Co..SSNY desig.as agt.of LLC whom process may be served.SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 919 81st St., Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful activity  
AJ; 1/12/19/26; 2/2/9/16

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, Plaintiff AGAINST Thakor Madhoo, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated November 27, 2017 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on February 15, 2018 at 2:30PM, premises known as 205 HALE AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11208. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK 3960, LOT 6. Approximate amount of judgment \$651,242.34 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 512152/2015. Leonard C. Spector, Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 51064  
AJ; 1/12/19/26; 2/2/

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: Marta Marie LLC Articles of organization filed with Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 01/02/2018. Office location: Kings county. SSNY has been designated as The agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail copy of the process to: Marta Castaing 279 Prospect Pl.#3 Brooklyn, NY 11238. Purpose: all lawful activity  
AJ; 1/19/26; 2/2/9/16/23

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS HSBC Bank USA, National Association as Trustee for Wells Fargo Asset Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates Series 2006-AR14, Plaintiff AGAINST Janice Smith a/k/a Janice T. Smith a/k/a Janis T. Smith; et al, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated September 29, 2016 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on February 22, 2018 at 2:30PM, premises known as 2 Paerdegat 3rd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11236. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block 8031 Lot 6. Approximate amount of judgment \$640,204.53 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index#

## LEGAL NOTICE

503256/2015. Philip L. Kamaras, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: December 28, 2017 50973  
AJ; 1/19/26; 2/2/9/

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff against ANDREA DANCE A/K/A ANDREA L. DANCE, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on April 10, 2017. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Courthouse, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY. on the 22nd day of February, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. premises described as follows: All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York. Said premises known as 1099 Stanley Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. 11208. (Block: 4506, Lot: 31). Approximate amount of lien \$ 927,403.41 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 511630-14. Jeffrey Miller, Esq., Referee. Fein, Such & Crane, LLP Attorneys for Plaintiff 28 East Main Street, Suite 1800 Rochester, NY. 14614 (585) 232-7400  
AJ; 1/19/26; 2/2/9/

REFeree'S NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, Plaintiff - against - DERRICK GEORGE A/K/A DERRICK R. GEORGE, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on June 16, 2016. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction, in Room 261, Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York on the 22nd Day of February, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon, erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York. Premises known as 4413 Clarendon Road, Brooklyn, (City of New York) NY 11223. (Block: 4944, Lot: 18) Approximate amount of lien \$360,048.71 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 506255/2013. Frank R. Hurley, Jr., Esq., Referee. Davidson Fink LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 28 East Main Street, Suite 1700 Rochester, NY 14614-1990 Tel. 585/760-8218 Dated: November 30, 2017  
AJ; 1/19/26; 2/2/9/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS HSBC BANK USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR WELLS FARGO ASSET SECURITIES CORPORATION, MORTGAGE ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2007-AR9, Plaintiff -against- JOYCELIN DOVE, GLADSTONE DOVE, WARREN BLAKE, NATIONAL CITY BANK, CITY OF NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD Defendant(s) Pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and sale entered on October 12, 2016 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction to the highest bidder at ROOM 224 F/K/A ROOM 274 OF KINGS COUNTY SUPREME COURT, 360 ADAMS STREET, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11201 on February 22, 2018 at 2:30 PM premises known as 298 SCHENCK AVENUE, BROOKLYN,

## LEGAL NOTICE

NY 11207. ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of KINGS, City and State of New York. Block: 3995 Lot: 23 Approximate amount of lien \$690,841.78 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment Index # 509904/2014 DORON LEIBY, ESQ., REFEREE STEIN, WIENER AND ROTH, L.L.P., ATTORNEYS FOR THE PLAINTIFF ONE OLD COUNTRY ROAD, SUITE 113 CARLE PLACE, NY 11514 DATED: January 12, 2018 FILE #: WELLS 64337 AJ; 1/19/26; 2/2/9/

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC) Name: Tzvi Vchomid LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 12/14/2017. Office location: Kings county. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served .SSNY shall Mail copy of the process to: Tzvi Vchomid LLC 134 South 9 Apt. 4-A Brooklyn, NY 11211. Purpose: All lawful activity  
AJ; 1/26; 2/2/9/16/23; 3/2

STATE OF NEW YORK SUPREME COURT: COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CITIGROUP MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST INC., ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-WMCI, Plaintiff, vs. JOSEPH SINGER, YOCHEVED R. SINGER A/K/A YOSSY SINGER A/K/A YOCHEVED SINGER A/K/A YOCHEVED KNOBLOCH, et. al., Defendants PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT In pursuance of a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the office of the County Clerk of Kings County on December 11, 2017, I, Aaron D. Maslow, Esq., the Referee named in said Judgment, will sell in one parcel at public auction on March 1, 2018 at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, County of Kings, State of New York, at 2:30 P.M., the premises described as follows: 1861 61st St Brooklyn, NY 11204 SBL No: 5519 - 53 ALL THAT TRACT OF PARCEL OF LAND situate in the Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, State of New York The premises are sold subject to the provisions of the filed judgment, Index No. 501886/2015 in the amount of \$532,366.32 plus interest and costs. Megan S. Kale, Esq. Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP Plaintiff's Attorney 700 Crossroads Building, 2 State St. Rochester, New York 14614 Tel.: 855-227-5072  
AJ; 1/26; 2/2/9/16/

Notice of Formation of WOODHULL RECORDS, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/16/17. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to CFG-NY, Inc., 80 8th Ave., Ste. 301, NY, NY 10011. Purpose: Any lawful activity.  
AJ; 1/26; 2/2/9/16/

REFeree'S NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS CITIMORTGAGE, INC., Plaintiff - against - ANTHONY FONTANA, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on January 17, 2017. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction, in Room 274 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn,

Continued on Page A10

## Tradition.

## The Longer, Shorter Road



JONATHAN SACKS  
LONDON

At the end of his new book, *Tribe of Mentors*, Timothy Ferris cites the following poem by Portia Nelson. It's called 'Autobiography in Five Short Chapters':

*Chapter 1: I walk down the street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I fall in. I am lost... I am helpless. It isn't my fault. It takes forever to find a way out.*



*Chapter 2: I walk down the same street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I pretend I don't see it. I fall in again. I can't believe I am in this same place. But it isn't my fault. It still takes a long time to get out.*

*Chapter 3: I walk down the same street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I see it is there. I still fall in... It's a habit... But, my eyes are open. I know where I am. It is my fault. I get out immediately.*

*Chapter 4: I walk down the same street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I walk around it.*

*Chapter 5: I walk down another street.*

That is probably how life is like for many of us. It certainly was for me. We set off, confident that we know where we are going, only to find that it is rarely that simple. "Life," said John Lennon, "is what happens while we are making other plans." We fall into holes. We make mistakes. Then we make them again. Eventually we avoid them, but by then we may have the growing suspicion that we took the wrong turning to begin with. If we are lucky, we find another road.

Hence the opening of this week's parsha:

*When Pharaoh let the people leave, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was nearby, for God said, "Lest the people change their minds when they encounter war and return to Egypt." So God brought the people by a roundabout route by way of the desert to the Red Sea ... (Ex. 13:17-18).*

This is actually quite a difficult text to understand. In and of

itself it makes eminent sense. God did not want the people immediately to face battle with the seven nations in the land of Canaan since, as newly liberated slaves, they were psychologically unprepared for war. We now know also that there was an additional factor. There were Egyptian forts at various points along the sea route to Canaan, so the Israelites would come up against them even before reaching the land.

Three facts, though, still need to be reckoned with. First, the Torah itself says that God "hardened Pharaoh's heart" (Ex. 14:4), leading him to pursue the Israelites with a

force of six hundred chariots. This so demoralised the Israelites that they cried, "Were there not there are enough graves in Egypt that you had to bring us out here to die in the desert? ... It would have been better to be slaves in Egypt than to die in the desert" (Ex. 14:11-12). Why did God cause Pharaoh to pursue the Israelites if He did not want them to think of going back? He should surely have made the first stage of their journey as undemanding as possible.

Second, the people did face war long before they came anywhere near the land of Canaan. They did so almost immediately after crossing the Red Sea, when they were attacked by the Amalekites (Ex. 17:8). The strange fact is that when they had to fight a battle on their own, without any miraculous intervention from God, they expressed no fear. Inspired by Moses' upraised arms, they fought and won (Ex. 17:10-13).

Third, the roundabout route failed to prevent the people's response to the report of the spies. Terrified by their account of the strength of the native population and the well-fortified nature of their cities, they said, "Let us appoint a (new) leader and return to Egypt" (Num. 14:4).

It seems, therefore, that the circuitous route by which God led the Israelites was not to prevent their wanting to return, but rather, to prevent their being able to return. Leading them miraculously through the Red Sea was like Caesar crossing the Rubicon, or Cortes burning his boats before his conquest of the Aztecs. It made retreat impossible. Whatever their

*Continued from Page A6*  
**Dilemma**

will speak: 'Oh Muslim, this is a Jew behind me.'

In the aftermath of all three sermons, I want to stress, I came across some reassuring signs that in America, we deal with these issues with an honesty that is absent in much of Europe and certainly the Middle East. In the New Jersey case, Senator Cory Booker quickly issued a thundering denunciation of Elkasaby's antisemitism, at the same time telling his friend, Islamic Center President Ahmed Shedeed, to "publicly and unconditionally denounce Imam Elkasaby's hateful

doubts and fears, the Israelites had no real choice. They had to continue onward, even if in the end it took forty years and a new generation to reach their destination.

What this meant was that almost from the dawn of their history as a nation, Jews were forced to learn that *lasting achievement takes time*. You can never get there by the shortest road. Thanks to the work of Anders Ericsson, popularised by Malcolm Gladwell, we know that greatness in many fields takes 10,000 hours of practice. The history of all too many nations born after the Second World War and the end of empire, shows that you can't create a democracy by United Nations decree, or freedom by a Universal Declaration of Human Rights. People who try to get rich fast often discover that their wealth is like Jonah's gourd: it appears overnight and disappears the next day. When you try to take a shortcut, you find yourself, like the poet, falling into a hole.

The Talmud tells the story of Rabbi Yehoshua ben Hanania who asked a young man sitting at a crossroad, "Which is the way to the town?" The young man pointed to one of the paths and said, "This way is short but long. The other way is long but short." Yehoshua ben Hanania set out on the first path, quickly arrived at the town, but found his way blocked by gardens and orchards. He then returned to the young man and said, "Didn't you tell me that this path was short?" "I did," said the young man, "but I also warned you that it was long." Better to take the long road that eventually gets you to your destination than the short one that doesn't even though it looks as if it does.

Today's world is full of books, videos and programmes promising a fast-track to almost anything from weight loss to riches to success and fame. The life-changing idea symbolised by the route God led the Israelites on when they left Egypt is that *there are no fast tracks*. The long way is short; the short way is long. Better by far to know at the outset that the road is long, the work is hard, and there will be many setbacks and false turnings. You will need grit, resilience, stamina and persistence. In place of a pillar of cloud leading the way, you will need the advice of mentors and the encouragement of friends. But the journey is exhilarating, and there is no other way. The harder it gets, the stronger you become.

## Legal Notice.

## LEGAL NOTICE

rhetoric, which was delivered at your house of worship before your congregants." In the case of Al-Rousan, the Islamic Society of Greater Houston condemned him for making "inflammatory remarks about our Jewish community in a deeply disturbing tone." In the case of Khadra in Raleigh, an email exchange I had with him revealed some awareness on his part of the negative impact of his remark, and a desire to meet with local Jews to mend fences and restate the non-discriminatory principles of interfaith dialogue.

In each of these cases, I spoke to Muslim leaders who expressed some degree of remorse or condemnation, and did not deny — as would often be the case in Europe — that such rhetoric is judged in the American context as an actual threat to the Jews living here, and therefore a potential threat to most precious norms and conventions of the nation at large.

That this recognition exists strikes me as a decent enough foundation for a more transparent dialogue between Judaism and Islam in America. As a country with no official religion, whose citizens nonetheless embrace different faiths in vast numbers, America is the ideal location for such a conversation. And it needs to begin by recognizing that there is, as Nirenberg says in his book, a strong message in the Quran and in other key Muslim texts that "Islam, like Christianity, staked its claims in the name of Jewish truth, but guaranteed those claims with Jewish falsity." Hence the temptation for Muslim preachers to address contemporary issues like Jerusalem through the filter of Jewish deceit and Jewish disobedience — "they believed, then disbelieved, therefore a seal was set on their hearts so they do not understand," the Quran says — that permeated the depiction of the Jews in the early world of Islam.

Nobody can pretend that these anti-Jewish texts, beliefs and traditions do not exist. But the experience of Jews with the Catholic Church during the last half-century — in which fundamental doctrines about the demonic nature of the Jews dating to the time of St. Paul have been dispensed with — suggests that there is very little in this world that is immovable. Certainly, those of us who believe that Jewish-Muslim coexistence can only be achieved on the basis of mutual respect, as well as mutual commitment to civic, secular government and society, should aim for nothing less.

*Ben Cohen writes a weekly column for JNS on Jewish affairs and Middle Eastern politics. His writings have been published in Commentary, the New York Post, Haaretz, The Wall Street Journal and many other publications.*

## LEGAL NOTICE

*Continued from Page A9*

NY 11201 on the 1st Day of March, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York. Premises known

as 1942 East 34th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11234. (Block: 8500 and Lot: 64) Approximate amount of lien \$574,360.05 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 500204/2014. Charles L. Emma, Esq., Referee. Davidson Fink LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 28 East Main Street, Suite 1700 Rochester, NY 14614-1990 Tel. 585/760-8218 Dated: December 19, 2017  
AJ; 1/26; 2/2/9/16/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. AS SUCCESSOR TO LASALLE BANK, N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR MERRILL LYNCH FIRST FRANKLIN MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-2, Plaintiff AGAINST ANNISA DANCE and RUSSELL DANCE, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated February 01, 2017 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on March 01, 2018 at 2:30PM, premises known as 686 WORTMAN AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11208. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK 4546, LOT 100. Approximate amount of judgment \$844,763.15 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 511425/2014. David J. Hernandez, Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 51088  
AJ; 1/26; 2/2/9/16/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS PNC Bank, National Association, Plaintiff AGAINST Renata Ramdass; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated September 14, 2016 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on March 1, 2018 at 2:30PM, premises known as 964 East 43rd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11210. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Section 23 Block 7746 Lot 59. Approximate amount of judgment \$384,277.96 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 502013/2014. Steven H. Richman, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: January 18, 2018 51322  
AJ; 1/26; 2/2/9/16/23; 3/2

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: Sweetcase Studio,LLC.Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 12/19/2017. Office location: Kings county SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC Upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail copy of the process to: Sweetcase Studio LLC 115 8th Ave. Apt.6 Brooklyn, NY 11215 purpose: all lawful activity  
AJ; 1/26; 2/2/9/16/23; 3/2

## Social.



Israeli Culture Minister Miri Regev. Photo: Facebook.

## Israel's Culture Minister Hails Her Country's Oscar Failure

BY REUTERS  
& ALGEMEINER STAFF

Israel's culture minister breathed a sigh of relief on Tuesday that her country's contender had failed to land an Oscar nomination for best foreign language film — despite not having watched the movie.

"Foxtrot" tells the fictional story of an army checkpoint where bored Israeli troops shoot Arab passers-by after mistaking a soda can for a weapon, and then cover up the incident.

It became Israel's Oscar submission after sweeping its national cinema awards, but the right-wing minister, Miri Regev, had called it anti-Israel.

On Tuesday, after the nominations were announced, she told Army Radio that they had "saved us from bitter disappointment and a false presentation of the Israel Defense Forces internationally," while adding that she had not seen the movie.

Her previous criticism had prompted Israel's Film and Television Academy to disinvite her from its annual prize ceremony in September, to which she responded with a threat to cut the academy's government funding.

"Foxtrot" also won the Silver Lion grand jury prize at the Venice Film Festival in September. After accepting the award, writer-director Samuel Maoz said: "If I criticize the place I live, I do it because I worry. I do it because I want to protect it. I do it from love."

## 'Baruch Hashem:' Orthodox Jewish Athlete Announces He'll Represent Israel at 2018 Olympics

BY SHIRYN SOLNY

An Orthodox Jewish athlete enthusiastically announced on Wednesday his selection to represent Israel in the 2018 Winter Olympic Games in Pyeongchang, South Korea for the first time in his career.

"It is official, Baruch Hashem," Boston, Massachusetts native AJ Edelman wrote on Instagram. The 26-year-old, who has taken up residence in the Jewish state, is Israel's first-ever Olympic athlete in Skeleton, a sport in which competitors lie face-first on a small sled and slide down a frozen track. He is now set to be one of ten members of the Israeli team competing in the 2018 Olympics but the only one in Skeleton.

Edelman grew up playing hockey and, despite receiving offers to join top prep-schools in Massachusetts, he instead chose to remain at his Orthodox Jewish day-school. After a year of studying at a religious seminary in Israel he attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He was a member of the MIT Engineers Hockey team and transitioned to skeleton after graduating college.

The Olympic athlete, who goes by the nickname "Hebrew Hammer," revealed that four years ago he was uncertain about which direction to take his career. He said, "I wanted to do something with meaning and impact that would better my community and encourage more Jewish and Israeli participation in sport. I wanted to start a foundation to get more funding to youth athletes, more interest in sport as an outlet, and more pride in being 'Jewish athletes.' I thought the best platform to accomplish this was to represent my homeland on an elite stage, proudly, and with distinction."

Edelman then decided to dedicate the "next chapter" of his life toward representing Israel in the Olympics. He concluded, "Today that dream, I learned, will become a reality. I will join a fraternity of athletes in Pyeongchang in February, walking behind the flag of the country I love. Thank you all for supporting me through this journey. Let's close this chapter successfully. Am Yisrael Chai!"

Edelman joined the Israeli team in 2014 and has since won three national titles.

## British-Palestinian Model Steps Down From L'Oreal Paris UK Campaign

BY SHIRYN SOLNY

A British-Palestinian model and beauty blogger announced on Monday her decision to step down from a campaign with the cosmetics company L'Oreal Paris UK after it was revealed that she had a history of posting anti-Israel messages on Twitter.

Amena Khan, who was featured last week in a L'Oreal hair product advertisement while wearing a hair-covering hijab, deleted all her antisemitic Twitter



Amena Khan in a L'Oreal hair product advertisement. Photo: Instagram.

posts on Friday, but not before they were discovered and shared on social media via screenshots. In the since-deleted posts, all from 2014, Khan called Israel a "sinister state," an "illegal state" and "child murderers." She claimed Israel took part in "terrorizing innocent civilians" and blamed it for "the illegal occupation of Palestine and oppression for over 60 years."

In another deleted Twitter post Khan wrote, "Israel = Pharaoh. Both are child murderers. InshaAllah, defeat also awaits the former; it's only a matter of time."

Khan posted on both Instagram and Twitter about her decision to no longer be involved with L'Oreal Paris UK, and in the same message she apologized for her tweets from 2014. She wrote, "I deeply regret the content of the tweets I made in 2014 and sincerely apologize for the upset and hurt that they have caused. Championing diversity is one of my passions, I don't discriminate against anyone." She added that she deleted the antisemitic posts because "they do not represent the message of harmony that I stand for."

Khan concluded by saying, "I recently took part in a campaign, which excited me because it celebrated inclusivity. With deep regret, I've decided to step down from this campaign because the current conversations surrounding it detract from the positive and inclusive sentiment that it set out to deliver."

A spokesperson for L'Oréal Paris said in a statement to BBC, "L'Oreal Paris is committed to tolerance and respect towards all people," the spokesperson said. "We agree with her decision to step down from the campaign."

Khan's commercial for L'Oreal Paris UK made her the first hijab-wearing woman to be featured in a major mainstream hair campaign, according to *Glamour*.

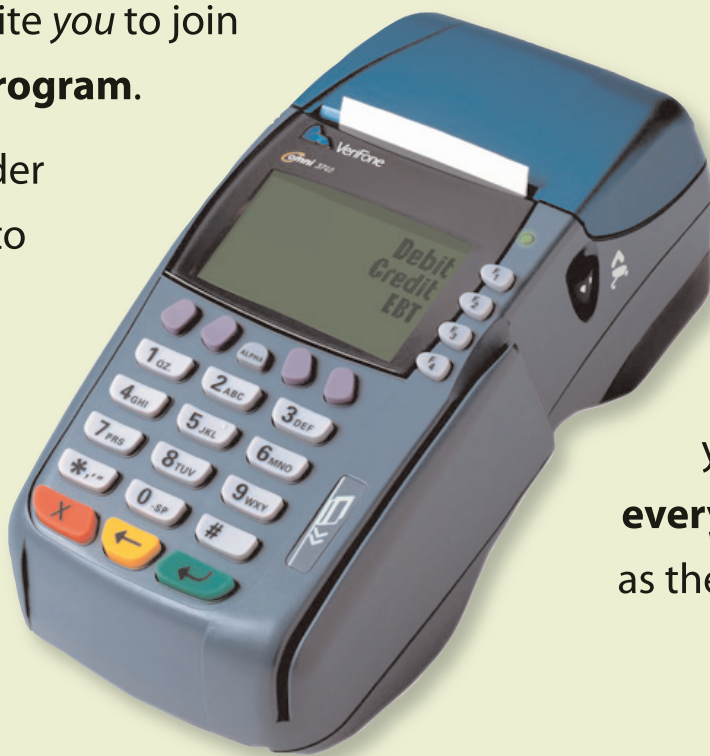
Her advertisement with the brand debuted only a few days before pro-Palestinian blogger and activist Amani Al-Khatahtbeh announced her decision to refuse an award from fellow cosmetics giant Revlon because of its relationship with brand ambassador and Israeli actress Gal Gadot.

# Attention Not-For-Profit Organizations

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